THE WASHINGTON POST
Wednesday, Sept. 12, 1973 C3

"Two years ago, Mrs. Eisenhower was hired to teach third grade, but was unable to continue when, a few days after she reported for work, a book cart fell on her foot and broke it."

Going the Editorial Route

By Jeannette Smyth

Julie Nixon Eisenhower reported for work yesterday at the Curtis Publishing Co. headquarters in Indianapolis as a $10,000-a-year assistant editor.

The White House annunced that Mrs. Eisenhower, who has a master's degree in education, will spend most of her time as an editor of Curtis' four children's magazines: Jack and Jill, Child Life, Children's Playmate and Young World.

She will also work on developing children's books and television programs, and on the company's planned revitalization bimmonthly of The Saturday Evening Post into a monthly publication.

Her previous editorial experience, the White House said, was selecting photographs for the book, "Eye on Nixon."

Mrs. Eisenhower follows her husband David's footsteps in journalism. Young Eisenhower wrote a sports column for the Philadelphia Bulletin this summer. He enrolled in George Washington University Law School last month.

Two years ago, Mrs. Eisenhower was hired to teach third grade at a Jacksonville, Fla., schol but was unable to continue when, a few days after she reported for work, a book cart fell on her foot and broke it.

A White House spokesman said yesterday that Mrs. Eisenhower had not looked "seriously" for a job since then "until the last couple of months." The spokesman suggested that Mrs. Eisenhower's need for an independent interest arose "with the realization that David would be studying all the time."

Mrs. Eisenhower will work out of her Bethesda home but hopes to spend three days in Indianapolis every two weeks. She will commute from Washington at Curtis' expense via commercial airline. Her Secret Service escort will travel with her at government expense, a Secret Service spokesman said. (Only two commerical airlines, American and TWA, operate direct flights between Washington and Indianapolis. Both charge $127.27 for a first-class round-trip ticket and $93.27 for economy class.)

(Yesterday's flight was Mrs. Eisenhower's first aboard a commercial airliner since her father took office. Military planes, used on all other occasions, were ruled out in this case "to avoid any public controversy," a White House spokesman said.)

"As time permits," the White House said yesterday, "Mrs. Eisenhower will continue the voluntary projects and activities she has been engaging in during the past 4½ years."

Until President Nixon's two press conferences in recent weeks, daughter Julie had assumed the high profile role of first family spokeswoman during the Watergate hearings and their aftermath. One week in June, for example, she made seven public appearances in four days.

Now the word from the White House is that Mrs. Eisenhower will make only one or two appearances a week (there's a ribbon-cutting this Friday), and her days as the Nixon family lightning rod seem, for the moment, to be over.

At least one President's daughter has gone the editorial route before. When Lyndon B. Johnson was President, daughter Lynda joined the staff of McCall's magazine. Now, as Lynda Johnson Robb, she is a contributing editor to The Ladies' Home Journal.